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THE BIBLICAL WORLD

VOLUME XLV

MARCH 1915

NUMBER 3

THE LARGER FOREIGN MISSIONS

We used to regard the foreign missionary as trying to save brands from the burning. Now we can see he is also putting out the conflagration. He is a messenger of good will, an ambassador of the higher internationalism of the Kingdom of God.

A nation's foreign policy is too often a mixture of duplicity, bluff, and selfishness. There have been instances in which a nation has sacrificed itself for the welfare of another, but such instances are exceptional. Nations have seized one another's territory rather than borne one another's burdens.

Foreign missions are the expression of a sincere interest in a foreigner's welfare. Their development is an indication of the rise of a new and Christian world-consciousness. We began by trying to save heathen; already we are trying to save the East. Foreign missions are duplicating the expansion of Christianity at home. The transforming power of the gospel cannot be limited to individuals, but must be extended to social forces in America and Europe. The results of this higher estimate of the revelation of Jesus are not yet fully reached, but they are inevitable. Never again can religion appeal to us as exclusively individual. It must also be social.

In this new vision there is no East or West, no citizen or alien. Humanity is composed of potential citizens of the Kingdom of God.



The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America has seen the larger possibility of foreign missions. Its President and Professor Sidney L. Gulick have gone to Japan to carry to the churches of that empire the greetings and good wishes of the Christians of the United States. Such a message is more than

formal. It is the recognition that the 17,000,000 church members represented by the Federal Council are not to remain in silence while a legislature practices international sabotage for the sake of local politics.

But this embassy to Japan is only one aspect of a larger movement.

It is high time that the Christians of the world frankly undertake to evangelize international politics. Throughout the world are organized groups of men and women professing loyalty to Jesus Christ as the revealer of Love as the supreme force in the universe. They should be urged to leaven patriotism with the gospel, to demand a Christian diplomacy and sacrificial justice in foreign relations.

Here is a new step in the foreign-mission movement—an evangelization of foreign policies as well as of foreign nations. In God's providence the older foreign-mission movement is ready to co-operate in the new endeavor. For it is its forerunner.



“What the soul is to the body, the Christians are to the world.” So wrote an unknown Christian to a Roman emperor. So we say to modern governments.

We propose to save nations from hatred, greed, and war. We propose to Christianize patriotism in the interest of a Christian internationalism in which God's will shall be done on earth as in heaven.